

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 00988 280357Z

70

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 /060 W

----- 058532

R 280245Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2221

COMUSSAG NKP THAILAND

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMIPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 00988

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: SITUATION IN KIEN TUONG PROVINCE

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION AMEMBASSY SAIGON FROM AMCONSUL CAN THO
24 JAN 75 BEING REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE CAN THO 027

1. JUST RETURNED FROM VISIT TO MOC HOA, KIEN TUONG PROVINCIAL SEAT. ON BASIS PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS WITH PROVINCE CHIEF AND CONGEN PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVE, DO NOT CONSIDER MOC HOA OR ANY OF DISTRICT CENTERS PRESENTLY IN DANGER OF BEING OVERRUN. DESPITE FREQUENT SHELLINGS OVER PAST WEEKS, MORALE OF GVN FORCES AND OFFICIAL APPERS HIGH. PROVINCE CHIEF CLAIMS COMBINATION OF ARVN 9TH DIVISION, VNAF AIRSTRIKES, ARTILLERY AND TENACIOUS TERRITORIAL FORCES CONTINUE TIE DOWN AND INFLECT HEAVY CASUALTIES ON NVA 5TH DIVISION. ARVN 15TH REGT HAS REPORTEDLY RETAKEN PORTIONS OF TUYEN NHON DISTRICT CENTER PREVIOUSLY OCCUPIED BY NVA.

2. IN SPITE OF SHELLINGS AND VC PROPAGANDA THREATS, ATMOSPHERE IN MOC HOA TOWN IS CALM. MEMBERS OF SECURITY FORCES AND MOST
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GVN OFFICIALS REMAIN IN PLACE CONSTRUCTING OR REINFORCING

BUNKERS AGAINST EXPECTED ABF'S. STRENGTH OF FRIENDLY SECURITY
FORCES RELATIVE TO KNOWN ENEMY THREAT WOULD SEEM ASSURE
AGAINST EFFECTIVE GROUND ASSAULT UNLESS NVA FORCES
SUBSTANTIALLY REINFORCED. SIGNED MCNAMARA
UNQUOTE MARTIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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